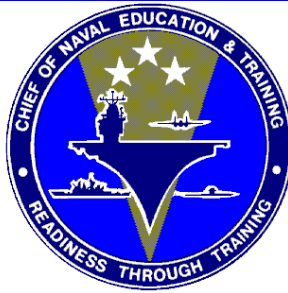


Chief of Naval Education and Training
Public Affairs Office
250 Dallas Street
Pensacola, Florida 32508-5220
(850) 452-4858
Fax: (850) 452-4863



NEWS

News Release 028-00
For Immediate Release
Story by: JO1(AW) Dean Persons

October 20, 2000

Navy College Program One Year Anniversary

PENSACOLA, Fla.--The Navy College Program (NCP) celebrated it's one year anniversary October 2nd on board Naval Education & Training Professional Development & Technology Center, Pensacola, Fla. The NCP provides Sailors one-stop shopping to determine recommended college credit for Navy training courses and work experience. Sailors can obtain academic counseling and advice in order to select and enroll in a college program of their choice either ashore or while deployed. NCP also identifies career-related education degree programs.

"NCP focuses on helping Sailors to voluntarily obtain a college degree while in the Navy, when they are ready and at their own pace. As of October 1st, 2000, the NCP web site, at www.navycollege.navy.mil, had logged more than 500,000 hits," said Barry Nelson, director of the Navy College Center (NCC) at Saufley Field, Fla.

One of the most requested items supplied by the NCP is the Sailor/Marine Corps American Council on Education Registry Transcript (SMART). The SMART is a computer-generated transcript that will automatically record the recommended college credit a Sailor earns for military training and work experience.

(MORE)

2-2-2-2 (NAVY COLLEGE PROGRAM)

"Sailors can also submit official copies of their SMART to academic institutions of their choice. Every Sailor graduating from recruit training and evaluated 'A' schools and 'C' schools are given a summary SMART," said Nelson. "As of October 1st, NCP counselors at the NCC in Pensacola had responded to more than 400,000 requests for the SMART."

Satisfied NCP customers are more than happy to let the NCC in Pensacola, know how they feel about the service they've received through e-mails to the NCC. Petty Officer Second Class Brian Bacon serving on board the USS John F. Kennedy said, "thank you for your quick response to my fax and e-mail. Being deployed to the Persian Gulf and trying to take care of college applications and transcript materials for next fall isn't an easy task. Due to the help I've received from the Navy College Center, my college application process went much smoother than I anticipated it to be from 'over here'. I greatly appreciate your services."

Petty Officer First Class Javier Velez stationed at Naval Security Group Activity, Median, Texas said, "let me say that you are doing a great job, keep it up. I recently faxed a request for my Navy transcripts and the service I was provided was superb. Great to see a team of dedicated professionals working together to make our military service a great place to serve while earning an education."

Navy Lieutenant Robert Fuentes, with the Naval Legal Service Office in Norfolk Va., said, "please pass along my thanks to all the staff at the Center who work with the Navy College Program. I'm really impressed with the timely and courteous service that I've received. I've received two e-mail messages and one phone call to ensure that my request was handled properly. I really appreciate the thoughtful and timely follow-through."

(MORE)

3-3-3-3(NAVY COLLEGE PROGRAM)

Navy Reservist, Petty Officer First Class Doug Melsha related, "I recently called your (NCP) toll free number and spoke with a very professional pleasant counselor about the Navy College Program. Two days after we spoke I received my unofficial transcript listing the college credits I obtained from the Navy schools I've attended. I am extremely impressed with your entire program and everyone involved should be congratulated. They all have great pride in what they do. Thank you very much for making the Navy College Program available to all members of the Navy and Marine Corps."

The NCP was introduced in three phases. Phase three is taking place as of October 2000. This involves the NCP evolving into a fully mature program. Navy College Offices will continue to be upgraded, availability of academic advice will continue to expand, and every Sailor will be fully engaged in rating-related degree programs maximizing the credits earned from Navy training and job experience. Re-evaluation of initial skills and continued evaluation follow-on training will be conducted and additional Navy College Learning Centers will be opened to provide Sailors an opportunity to improve job skills and prepare for college.

For more information about the Navy College Program, visit your local Navy College Office. You can also e-mail the Navy College Center at, ncc@cnet.navy.mil, call the toll free number (1-877-253-7122), DSN (922-1828) or access the Navy College Program (NCP) web site at www.navycollege.navy.mil.